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Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
TRSE-00 /066 W
----------096055 071406Z /50
P 071104Z JUN 78
FM AMCONSUL GENOA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2269
INFO AMEMBASSY ROME
AMCONSUL FLORENCE
AMCONSUL MILAN
AMCONSUL NAPLES
AMCONSUL PALERMO

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENOA 0329

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, IT
SUBJECT: LIGURIAN SOCIALISTS REAFFIRM THEIR "AUTONOMY"...
FROM THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS

REF: GENOA 0279

SUMMARY. LEST THERE BE ANY DOUBT, MISUNDERSTANDING OR WISHFUL THINKING OVER SOCIALIST INEXHAUSTIBLE CAPACITY FOR POLITICAL VENTRILOQUISM, LIGURIA'S VICTORIOUS CRAXI-SIGNORILE MAJORITY MET OVER THE WEEK-END AND SOLEMNLY UNVEILED THE NEW "AUTONOMIST" COURSE, TO WIT: A) LOYALTY TO LOCAL LEFTIST GIUNTE (ADMINISTRATIONS) WITH THE "NATURAL BUT DIFFICULT" COMMUNIST PARTNERS; B) FIRM OPPOSITION TO THE REVIVAL OF ALLIANCES, HOWEVER CAMOUFLAGED, WITH THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS; AND C) CLEAR WARNING TO BOTH THE LOCAL REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PARTY'S MANCA-DEMARTINO "MINORITY", HERE LED BY REGIONAL VICE-PRESIDENT ALBERTO TEARDO, AND TO THE COMMUNIST BRETHREN TO STOP THEIR FLIRT WITH THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS. SO MUCH FOR THE NEW
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SOCIALIST "AUTONOMY" AS PERCEIVED, DEFIND AND ALREADY LONG-PRACTICED IN LIGURIA. END SUMMARY

1. IN TWO SEPARATE MEETINGS, JUNE 2 AND 3, IN RAPALLO AND GENOA RESPECTIVELY, LIGURIA'S NEW SOCIALIST "AUTONOMIST" MAJORITY, WHICH CLAIMS TO SUPPORT AND SPEAK FOR THE NATIONAL LEADERSHIP, MET TO TAKE STOCK OF THE SOCIALIST/

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COMMUNIST PARTNERSHIP IN LIGURIA AND TO REDEFINE SOCIALIST
COURSES OF ACTION. (NOTE: LEFT GIUNTE RULE THE REGION AND
THREE OF ITS FOUR PROVINCES. THE EXCEPTION IS THE
WESTERNMOST PROVINCE OF IMPERIA WHICH IS UNDER A CHRISTIAN
DEMOCRATIC-LED CENTER- LEFT ADMINISTRATION WITH
SOCIALIST PARTICIPATION). THE GENOA MEETING, CHAIRED BY
NATIONAL VICE-SECRETARY SIGNORILE, PRODUCED A COMMUNIQUE
WHICH REAFFIRMED THE PRE-EMINENCE OF SOCIALIST ALLIANCES
WITH THE COMMUNISTS, CONDEMNED AND WARNED AGAINST THE TENDENCY
OF THE TEARDO-CONTROLLED PARTY FEDERATIONS OF IMPERIA AND
SAVONA TO WORK WITH THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS IN THE
REVIVAL OF CENTER-LEFT GIUNTE, AND ENJOINED THE COMMUNISTS
TO STOP TRYING TO LURE THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS INTO "BROADENED"
LEFTIST MAJORITIES.

2. SIMILARLY, AT THE RAPALLO MEETING -- LABELLED
"FOR A SOCIALIST ALTERNATIVE" -- SPEAKER AFTER SPEAKER (ALL
OF THEM SPOKESMEN FOR THE CRAXI-SIGNORILE MAJORITY),
INCLUDING GENOA MAYOR FULVIO CEROFOLINI, PROVINCIAL PRESIDENT
RINALDO MAGNANI AND GENOA ALDERMAN DELIO MEOLI,
REPORTEDLY GAVE A POSITIVE ASSESSMENT OF THE PERFORMANCE OF
THE PARTNERSHIP WITH THE COMMUNISTS WHO, IN THE WORDS OF MAYOR
CEROFOLINI, REMAIN "NATURAL BUT DIFFICULT" ALLIES. MAGNANI
EXHORTED THE COMMUNISTS TO STICK WITH THE SOCIALISTS AND TO
STOP THEIR EFFORTS TO WIN CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC SUPPORT FOR
AND/OR PARTICIPATION IN LEFT GIUNTE. SIGNIFICANTLY,
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SOME SPEAKERS READ IN THE RESULTS OF THE RECENT PARTIAL
LOCAL ELECTIONS IN LIGURIA -- WHICH WERE A TRIUMPH FOR THE
CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS, A DISASTER FOR THE COMMUNISTS AND A
DISAPPOINTING SHOW FOR THE SOCIALISTS (REFTEL) -- A VOTE
OF CONFIDENCE FOR THE LEFT PARTNERSHIP AND A MANDATE TO
PERSEVERE WITH IT.

COMMENT: THE UPSHOT OF BOTH MEETINGS WOULD SEEM TO BE THAT,
FOR THE LOCAL SOCIALISTS AT LEAST "AUTONOMY" IS LITTLE MORE
THAN FREEDOM TO CONTINUE TO PLAY SECOND FIDDLE TO THEIR
SENIOR AND "DIFFICULT" COMMUNIST PARTNERS WHENEVER AND
WHEREEVER POSSIBLE AND TO THE EXCLUSION OF ANY OTHER ALTERNATIVE
ALLIANCES. IN SUM, THE MIRAGE OF THE "ALTERNATIVA SOCIALISTA"
MAY HAVE BEEN EXPLODED IN FRANCE AND ABANDONED IN ROME BY
CRAXI AND CO., BUT IS STILL ALIVE AND KICKING IN
LIGURIA, FOR NOW. TOMORROW WILL BE ANOTHER AND PERHAPS
DIFFERENT DAY. FOR AS WE HAVE REPEATEDLY REPORTED IN THE
PAST, THE SOCIALIST/COMMUNIST PARTNERSHIP IS INDEED "DIFFICULT".
IT COULD BECOME UNBEARABLE, ESPECIALLY IN THE AFTERMATH
OF OTHER ELECTORAL VERDICTS THAT CONFIRMED THE UNFAVORABLE
TREND FOR THE LEFT IN GENERAL AND THE COMMUNIST IN
PARTICULAR REVEALED IN LIGURIA AND ELSEWHERE IN THE

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COUNTRY IN THE PARTIAL LOCAL ELECTIONS OF MAY 14.DISCIULLO

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